Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Monday 25 Jan 2021 until 23:59 on Tuesday 26 Jan 2021

Forecast Issued on Monday 25 Jan 2021 at 03:06

Confidence: High for generally settled Monday, then for unsettled and milder from mid-Tuesday. But medium for detail of extent and timing of the worst of conditions thereafter.

Headline for Monday 25 Jan 2021: Icy. Most staying dry with plenty of brightness.

Mountain weather hazards on Monday 25 Jan 2021

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** No Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Fog	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Partly cloudy (night)	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability					
20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%

Forecast for Monday 25 Jan 2021

Weather: Ice slow to clear around the foothills while persisting elsewhere. Best of the clear then bright or sunny spells expected in the west where the vast majority will stay dry. A few isolated light wintry showers will crop up across the Park area however, these mainly confined to western ranges.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Ranging from 60% in west and 80% in east with bases lowering 500-700m at times, particularly in and around showers.

Visibility: Good or very good, falling to a few kilometres in showers.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Monday 25 Jan 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	31/36 W	32/38 W	30/38 W	28/35 W	22/28 W	19/23 W	18/22 W
600	23/30 W	26/34 W	25/34 W	23/32 W	19/26 W	16/22 W	14/20 W
300	8/25 NW	11/29 NW	11/28 NW	10/25 W	7/20 W	5/16 W	5/15 W
Valley	7/24 NW	9/26 W	11/26 W	10/23 W	7/19 W	6/16 W	5/15 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-3/-13	-3/-12	-3/-12	-3/-12	-3/-11	-3/-10	-3/-10
600	-1/-9	-1/-9	-1/-8	-1/-8	-1/-8	-1/-7	-1/-6
300	1/-3	1/-4	2/-3	2/-2	1/-2	1/-2	1/-1
Valley	2/-1	3/-0	4/0	4/1	3/0	3/1	3/1
Freezing Level*	400m	400m	500m	500m	500m	500m	500m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Severe wind chill occasional at mid-levels widespread across higher peaks.

Forecast for Tuesday 26 Jan 2021

Weather: Cloud soon thickening and lowering from the west bringing from mid-day periods of snow falling as rain below around 400-500m. Some heavier outbreaks expected through the afternoon, but quite patchy and light for the evening.

Maximum wind: Variable 15mph or less

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: By day 50% at first becoming less than 10% from afternoon as bases become extensive from 450-650m.

Visibility: Good becoming moderate or poor from mid-day.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Minus 6 Celsius rising plus 4 Celsius during the afternoon
At 800m: Minus 2-3 Celsius
Freezing level: 500m

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Sunday 24 January Location: Helvellyn summit at 13:30 Full report: We are continuing to provide the Fell Top Reports for people undertaking their daily local exercise during the lockdown. We would like to remind everyone that Government guidance stipulates that people should only exercise locally to where they live. A cold and still night with a few snow showers gave way to another fine day across the Lake District fells. Conditions were very similar to yesterday with the snow level around 300m on shaded slopes but where exposed to the sun it is much higher. There is a significant amount of ice on paths especially between 200m and 600m and microspikes and walking poles are very useful. Generally the snow is soft and increases in depth with altitude up to 1m+ on lee slopes and in hollows. In places it is overlying and poorly bonded to old refrozen snow or neve. There were also patches of windslab around on steep NE through SE aspects which if triggered would easily be enough to take you off your feet and potentially into steep and rocky terrain below. Where the snow is being compressed by walkers feet it is becoming hard and icy. Large cornices are present above NE through SE aspects and are now a considerable hazard to walkers and climbers. The cornices above the east face of Helvellyn ie right next to the summit trig point are 2-3m. Please give them a wide berth and advise others with less experience to do likewise. Striding and Swirral Edges are both a mixture of deep soft snow, rime ice and bare rock. The ridge crest was the easiest option today as many of the easier options on the flanks were banked out with drifted snow. The exit to the Striding Edge felt very serious with a large bank of steep and deep poorly bonded soft snow and a cornice to surmount. The exit to Swirral Edge has now banked out as well but is generally more wind scoured and icy overall. The lighter winds have allowed more snow to settle on the Helvellyn plateau and there is now a good covering with some large drifts. Surface hoar crystals are also starting to develop in the calm conditions Despite the calm and sunny conditions the summit windchill was still minus 8 degrees C Full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots and equipment are all essential for anyone going out onto the fells. Although the snowpack is currently mainly soft, for those venturing above the snowline an ice axe and crampons are essential. A simple slip on the Helvellyn Edges or other exposed terrain could have very serious consequences without the means to quickly stop your slide. Even on the so called “easy” route up Helvellyn from Swirls, Thirlmere there is a large area of unavoidable, steep, hard icy snow to cross. Please be conservative with your plans and know your limits. Temperature: minus 4.5C Maximum wind speed 4.0mph Wind chill: minus 8.3C Average wind speed: 2.7mph
Issued at: 03:06 on Mon 25 Jan 2021

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